

Computer Science Grant Programs

Office of Standards and Instructional Support



COLORADO
Department of Education

Computer Science Grants to Train Educators and Expand Computer Science Programming for Students

Computer Science Teacher Education Grant Program

Legislative Background

The Colorado Computer Science Teacher Education Grant Program, created by Senate Bill 17-296, was passed by the Colorado Legislature in 2017 with an appropriation of \$500,000. In 2018 the appropriation was increased by \$500,000 through House Bill 18-1322. This increase championed by the Colorado State Board of Education is intended for elementary computer science teacher professional development. Funds will be distributed to local education providers (LEPs), including school districts, BOCES, and district charter schools or Institute Charter Schools, for K-12 computer science teacher professional development.

Grant Information

An appropriation of \$1,048,000 was provided to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to administer the grant program and distribute grant funds through a competitive process for computer science teacher professional development during the 2019-20 school year. Approximately \$880,000 of grant funding will be available for K-12 awards, as well as elementary-focused awards.

This grant will be distributed in two parts. Part 1 is focused on elementary teachers for \$440,000, and Part 2 will include \$440,000 to focus on K-12 teachers. Part 1 has two options: a district determined professional development and a CDE-sponsored regional training in which districts apply for individual teachers slots.

Option 1: Regional Training

- Available for only elementary teachers.
- Free regional trainings will be provided by a CDE-approved contractor.
- Approved teachers will be provided a stipend.
- Trainings will focus on:
 - Learning and applying computational thinking.
 - Introducing computer science teaching standards.
 - Integrating computer science into a curriculum.
 - Providing experience in coding.

Option 2: District Determined

- Funds may be used for professional development, including tuition, fees, training program costs, professional development books and/or materials for the elementary teacher receiving training.
- Local Education Providers (LEPs) can choose providers best suited for their needs to train elementary teachers.
- LEPs can apply for grants up to \$30,000.

2019-20 Grant Timeline



Computer Science Program Development

Legislative Background

The Computer Science Grants Program, created by House Bill 19-1277, was passed by the Colorado Legislature in 2019 with an appropriation of \$250,000. The grant's purpose is to provide funding to increase enrollment or participation of traditionally underrepresented students in computer science education activities. Competitive grant awards will be distributed to LEAs, including school districts, BOCES, and district charter schools or Institute Charter Schools. Funding for this grant program will be awarded in the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Grant Information

CDE will administer the grant program and distribute grant funds through a competitive process to increase enrollment, and/or participation, of traditionally underrepresented students in computer science education activities. The application process will begin in spring 2020 and awards will be distributed for use during the 2020-21 school year. Approximately \$250,000 of grant funding will be available.

The Computer Science Grants Program created by HB 19-1277, which was funded with an appropriation of \$250,000, will begin in the 2020-21 fiscal year. The purpose is to provide funding to public schools or school districts to increase enrollment or participation of traditionally underrepresented students in computer science education activities.

- The Computer Science Grants program will focus on activities that:
 - Increase student awareness
 - Implement outreach
 - Improve learning spaces
- In addition, funding may be used to purchase resources to support the implementation of computer science education activities.
- This includes technology equipment equal to no more than 50% of the total grant award.
- For the purpose of this grant traditionally underrepresented students might include:
 - Gender equity and access;
 - Race and ethnicity equity and access;
 - Students who are enrolled in special education services or programs;
 - Students who are English language learners; and
 - Students who are eligible for free or reduced-cost lunch.

2020-21 Grant Timeline



WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

Computer Science Grants Program Website: <http://bit.ly/CSed-Grant>

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